

Appendix 6 Detailed Hazard Mitigation Project Descriptions

This is a more detailed list of the projects that are listed in *Section VI, Hazard Mitigation Strategy, Goals and Objectives*, pages 36 to 42 It outlines projects intended to have county-wide benefits for all jurisdictions, and initiatives that are common for all municipalities.

Measures To Be Implemented Countywide With Schoharie County Leadership and Municipal Participation

Multi-Hazard Mitigation

Hold a bi-annual hazard information meeting: This meeting will be the primary multi-jurisdictional event to promote, guide and coordinate the process for mitigating hazards in Schoharie County. This event is envisioned to keep the community focused on the goals and strategy for hazard mitigation. The County shall host this hazard information meeting to discuss objectives and promote implementation of improvements outlined in this plan. This meeting will be in addition to regular meetings of the Hazard Mitigation Committee. All municipal representatives, key County Departments, applicable State Agencies and the public will be invited to attend. Revisions and improvements to this plan can be proposed for changes to take place when the plan is reviewed and updated. Potential funding sources for the year can be defined more specifically and individuals can be assigned to manage funding procurement. Committees can be established to concentrate on achieving certain objectives in the plan.

Priority/Time: High/Once bi-annually

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Support Agency: NYSOEM

Distribute hazard information: At the bi-annual hazard information meeting, the Hazard Mitigation Committee will review materials that are available in the County offices and evaluate the need for additional information/revisions about hazards, emergency preparedness, warning system, hazard mitigation, storm water management and tree maintenance. Appropriate brochures will be procured and maintained on the display racks. The maps of hazards that are included in this plan will be displayed in the corresponding municipal offices. Copies of the Schoharie County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan will be available at the Planning and Development Agency, Emergency Management Office, local libraries, town and village halls.

Priority/Time: High/Once annually and as needed

Funding: Local/State/Federal

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office), Public Information Task Force

Support Agency: NYSOEM, County Department of Public Works, Village/Town Clerks

Articles in local newspapers: The County will continue to print articles about flooding and other hazards whenever possible and appropriate in the Times Journal, Mountain Eagle, and Schenectady Daily Gazette. Newspaper articles will inform residents about what is being done to protect the County from hazards; the measures people can take to prepare for disasters and how people can mitigate potential hazard impacts. The Planning and Development Agency and Emergency Management Office will be the key departments to draft and issue such articles.

Priority/Time: High/at least twice annually

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Supporting: All Agencies that deal with hazards can provide source material

Include hazard information on the County website: At the bi-annual hazard information meeting, the Hazard Mitigation Committee will review the hazard information available on the County website, additional information about hazards and emergency response will be incorporated directly or by linking to other sites. Topics will include hazard information, family disaster planning, emergency supplies, how to obtain current warnings and weather forecasts, how to shelter-in-place, evacuation procedures, "good neighbor" policies, transportation safety, mitigation measures, etc.

Priority/Time: High/Once annually/Updates as needed

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Support Agency: Schoharie County Information Technology Services

Support education efforts: The County will continue to participate in and support County, regional, and state education efforts that address: natural hazards, flood mitigation, storm water management, emergency preparedness, wetland protection, and related topics. At the annual hazard information meeting, a discussion of needed training courses for the year will be discussed and planned.

Municipal and County officials will be encouraged and/or required to participate in National Incident Management System (NIMS), Incident Command System (ICS) training and training. Elected and appointed officials as well as paid and volunteer staff that deal with emergency situations will be informed of training opportunities.

The Schoharie County Flood Committee meets at least quarterly and will be encouraged to continue education of members through invited speakers and printed material. Through continued discussions by members of the public, Planning and Development advisors, Emergency Management Office advisors, and Natural Resource Conservation Service advisors, a broadened view of the role of the committee will be continued.

Priority/Time: High/Once annually/As needed

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Review and update emergency plans: The County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan documents procedures that enable the County and municipalities to provide leadership and coordination during an emergency. This plan will be periodically reviewed (at least annually) and updated within five years to ensure that the information is current and accurate. At a minimum, contact information (for municipal officials, emergency personnel, utilities, etc.) will be updated annually. A complete review of the plan can be conducted periodically, or any time there is new or revised information, or when an event occurs that influences provisions of the plan. Municipal representatives will be involved in this planning process in order to insure consistency with any local Emergency Plans. In addition, each fire department and police department that serves the County will be asked to participate in the plan review process in order to insure their familiarity with the plan.

An overview of topics, issues and discussions that should be addressed when the plan is reviewed are outlined in Section VII of this plan

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Emergency Management Office

Support Agency: All County Agencies that deal with hazards

Provide NOAA weather radios to residents and businesses: Implement and expand the NOAA weather radios purchase program initiated in 2005 and provide radios to residents and businesses in locations that are prone to flooding or other hazards (or opportunity to purchase radios at a discounted price). Establish a system for keeping radios maintained and inventoried. Assist municipalities (highway superintendents) with internet access for weather reports.

Priority/Time: High/Started in 2005 and is ongoing

Funding: Local/NYC

Lead: Schoharie County (Sheriff, Fire Coordinator, Emergency Management Office)

Support: Schoharie County Information Technology Services

Improve Early Warning Systems: Schoharie County has several early warning systems in place, including automated calling systems and an advanced audible warning system in the Schoharie Valley. These systems will continue to be improved and tested at the annual hazard information meeting.

Priority/Time: High/Started in 2005 and is ongoing

Funding: Local/NYC

Lead: Schoharie County (Sheriff, Fire Coordinator, Emergency Management Office)

Support: Schoharie County Information Technology Services

Improve Geographic Information System (GIS) Capabilities: Schoharie County does not have a true Geographic Information System (GIS) and this can be a hindrance to emergency planning and hazard mitigation planning. Schoharie County is currently digitizing tax maps countywide and the GIS needs to be continually updated with data, equipment, and staff training. The status of GIS and activities to be undertaken shall be discussed at the annual hazard information meeting. Staff needs training in HAZUS MH software.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local State

Lead: Schoharie County (Real Property Tax, Information Technology Services, Planning and Development)

Support: all County Agencies

Flood

Direct mailing to owners of flood prone areas: The County will continue to distribute flood information to owners of property in special flood hazard areas and other flood prone areas and local realtors. Each year, the Planning and Development Agency and Emergency Management Office will review the current informational pamphlets and the distribution list. Revisions will be made and new printed material created as appropriate. GIS will be utilized to help update the distribution list.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Support Agency: Schoharie County (Real Property Tax Office, Information Technology Services)

Protect County Facilities: The County will continue to investigate and implement means to protect existing County buildings using elevation, floodproofing, flood gates, and/or relocation of structures and equipment.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State/Federal

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency, Sheriff Office, Emergency Management Office)

Maintain flood zone and flood evacuation signs: Every two years or when substantial changes are made to Flood Insurance Rate Maps or evacuation routes, the Planning and Development Agency and Emergency Management Office will confer with municipal highway superintendents and NYDOT to review the location of the 61 flood zone notification signs placed in the County. If it is determined that signs need to be replaced or moved, the assistance of NYDOT and the County Department of Public Works will be utilized.

Priority/Time: High/Once annually

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Support Agency: Municipal Highway Superintendents, NYDOT, County Department of Public Works

Replace/install stream gauges: The Emergency Management Office will continue to work with the Mohawk-Schoharie Hydro Committee to address the stream gauge information for waterways affecting Schoharie County.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Emergency Management Office

Support Agency: NYSOEM, USGS

Inventory storm water infrastructure: The County has commenced a program in the New York City Watershed (Conesville, Gilboa, and Jefferson) for inventorying, establishing routine inspection and maintenance of road ditches, culverts, and other drainage infrastructure. Grant funds will be pursued to expand the program countywide. Improved documentation procedures and communication with highway superintendents will be developed to improve the effectiveness of these inspection and maintenance activities and to qualify communities for increased Community Rating System (CRS) credit. The Hazard Mitigation Committee will begin outreach to private landowners to educate them about stream channel and drainage ditch maintenance. It is anticipated that identification of mitigation projects on the municipal level will be aided by identifying undersized bridges and culverts through the program.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State

Lead: Schoharie County Planning Agency

Support Agency: NYDOS, Municipal Highway Superintendents

Improve private dam safety/inspections: The Hazard Mitigation Committee will identify and commence communication with private dam owners about proper maintenance and inspection of dams. The help of the NYDEC Bureau of Dam Safety will be key to the education process. Any dams identified as needing repair will be reported to the corresponding municipality as a possible grant application to NYDEC and/or NYSOEM.

Priority/Time: High/Once annually

Funding: Local/State/Federal

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Support Agency: NYSOEM, NYDEC

Work with dam owners to improve dam safety: The Schoharie County Board of Supervisors and local citizen groups must continue to lobby for increased dam safety. It is a priority (especially for Gilboa (Schoharie Reservoir) Dam to use highest design, construction, operation, maintenance, and inspection standards on dams. Also pursue independent oversight of the design, construction, operation and maintenance of dams by qualified dam engineers, dam owners' indemnification of downstream residents and local governments for financial costs and losses attributable to dams, and increased media awareness and the quality of media reporting on dam and flood issues. Dam Concerned Citizens should be supported in this cause.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Board of Supervisors

Support Agency: Dam Concerned Citizens

Commence beaver dam inventory/monitoring: Using equipment procured through SARA funds, the Planning and Development Agency will initiate countywide beaver dam identification and monitoring program. With the assistance of local municipalities, known beaver dams will be identified, photographed, and mapped providing a description of each dam and the condition of the dam. A timeline for inspection will be established using local people as the inspectors. The assistance of the NWS will be sought before initiating the project and data collected will be provided to the NWS – Albany.

Priority/Time: Moderate

Funding: Local/State

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Support Agency: NWS, Municipalities

Assist property owners with flood hazard mitigation measures: The Planning and Development Agency will continue to provide technical assistance for elevation of utilities and other measures for flood proofing existing structures. If property owners are interested in implementing flood protection measures that are beyond their financial means, the County and the municipality will evaluate the desirability of applying for financial assistance for flood proofing, elevation or property acquisition. Municipal approval of projects is required and some are listed in the municipal section of this plan.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State/Federal

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Support Agency: NYSOEM, Municipalities

Upgrade existing drainage structures: When roads, ditches, and culverts are damaged due to drainage and flooding problems, the County will make every effort to mitigate the problem when repairs are made. The municipalities will also continue the ongoing efforts to upgrade existing drainage structures as the need and funding permit.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State

Lead: County Department of Public Works, Municipal Highway Superintendents

Support Agency: Schoharie County Planning

Make sure local plans/laws consider proper flood plain development: When comprehensive plans or new local land use laws are created or updated, review for recognition of flood damage prevention laws and other means to protect new and existing development from floods.

Priority/Time: High/As needed

Funding: Local

Lead: County Planning Commission

Severe Weather

Explore providing brush pickup or disposal locations with municipalities: The availability of a program providing brush pickup and/or designated drop off locations encourages residents to conduct periodic maintenance, which can reduce damages from an ice storm or wind storm. At the annual hazard mitigation meeting, a discussion of this service can be initiated and proposed projects developed.

Priority/Time: High/Once annually

Funding: Local

Lead: County Department of Public Works

Support Agency: County Planning Agency, Municipalities

Make sure local plans/laws/projects consider severe weather mitigation: When comprehensive plans/new local land use laws or newly proposed projects are reviewed, educate about underground construction of utilities to reduce severe storm impacts.

Priority/Time: High/As needed

Funding: Local

Lead: County Planning Commission

Terrorism

Work with the owners of gas pipelines in the County to determine the best means to improve public education about pipeline in general and how to report suspicious activity near the lines. The owners of mass gathering locations will also begin to be contacted to determine the extent of means to decrease vulnerability to terrorism at specific sites.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Assess the vulnerability of County facilities to a terrorist attack: Hold periodic meetings to discuss vulnerability of County owned facilities and security/identification at County facilities. Funding could be pursued for recommended construction projects at County facilities. (i.e. security check stations, barrier construction in vulnerable locations)

Priority/Time: High/Once every 2 years

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Sheriff, Safety Officer, Schoharie County Safety Committee

Support Agency: Schoharie County Fire Coordinator, NYS Police

NOTE: Other confidential actions to be undertaken by County Sheriff and NYS Police.

Transportation Accident

County Safety Board: The County Traffic Safety Board will continue to meet and periodically disseminate traffic safety information as appropriate.

Priority/Time: High/Once annually

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Sheriff, Traffic Safety Board

Support Agency: NYDOT, County Department of Public Works

Access Management Plans: The Planning and Development Agency will meet with NYSDOT to discuss Access Management Plans for major State Routes in the County. NYS Route 7 in Cobleskill and Richmondville would be a priority. Grant funding to develop such plans should be pursued.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State/Federal

Lead: Schoharie County Planning Agency

Support Agency: NYDOT

Defensive Driving: Defensive driving programs will continue to be offered to County and municipal staff/officials.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Safety Committee

High Accident Area Identification: The County Sheriff and NYS Police will annually review County accident incidents and times and target enforcement efforts at necessary locations to help reduce problems.

Priority/Time: High/Once annually

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Sheriff, NYS Police

NYSDOT Plans for rail crossings: The County will encourage NYSDOT to eliminate at-grade railroad crossings when reviewing new construction projects involving such crossings. Such actions will be incorporated into corridor plans as appropriate.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Planning Agency

Support Agency: NYDOT, County Department of Public Works

Make sure local plans/laws/projects consider pedestrian and traffic safety: When comprehensive plans/new local land use laws or newly proposed projects are reviewed, educate about pedestrian and traffic safety design.

Priority/Time: High/As needed

Funding: Local

Lead: County Planning Commission

Hazardous Materials/Fire

Early Warning System: The County should expand the flood early warning system to include uses for other hazards (especially hazardous material events). The Hazard Mitigation Committee will invite County Information Technology Services to assist with this project.

Priority/Time: High/Started in 2006

Funding: Local/NYC

Lead: Schoharie County Sheriff

Support Agency: County Planning Agency, County Emergency Management, NYCDEP, County Information Technology Services

Agricultural Operations: At the annual hazard mitigation meeting, invite Schoharie County Farm Bureau members to discuss ways to improve hazardous material storage/handling at large agricultural operations. Devise a method for farms to notify local fire departments of the time/type/quantity of hazardous material being stored.

Priority/Time: Moderate/Once Annually

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Support Agency: Schoharie County Farm Bureau, Schoharie County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board

Local official training: The County should provide hazardous material awareness training for appropriate municipal officials and staff. The Schoharie County Fire Coordinator will offer this training periodically and invite participation from the municipalities.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State/Federal

Lead: Schoharie County Fire Coordinator

Non-Hazardous Material Fire, Explosion, Wildfire

The County Fire Coordinator shall work with local fire departments to inventory accessible water supplies for firefighting and determine where new dry hydrants should be installed in the County. Such information can be included in this plan at the first revision.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State

Lead: Schoharie County Fire Coordinator

Support Agency: Local Fire Departments

Water Supply Contamination

The County Health Department and Planning and Development Agency will identify and assemble information to inform residents/property owners in municipal water supply watersheds about applicable land use regulations.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Planning Agency, Schoharie County Health Department

Support Agency: Schoharie County Planning Commission

Drought

The Emergency Management Office will work with Planning and Development to inventory and map monitoring wells countywide. The Schoharie County Farm Bureau will be consulted to assist with methods to improve cooperation amongst farmers to help with lack of water problems on neighboring farms.

Priority/Time: Moderate

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Emergency Management Office

Support Agency: NYSOEM, County Department of Public Works, Schoharie County Farm Bureau

Epidemic

Work shall continue to implement the plans developed by the County Health Department and the Animal Disease Response Team.

Priority/Time: High/Once annually

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Health Department

Caving Accident

The Fire Coordinator, Sheriff, and EMO shall work with the National Speleological Society to set up and advertise training for performing cave rescues. The County shall contact all fire departments to encourage training even if no caves are located in the department's response zone in order to increase the pool of trained, available cave rescuers. Maps of known caves should not be widely distributed.

Priority/Time: High/Once annually

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Sheriff, Fire Coordinator, Emergency Management Office

Support Agency: National Speleological Society

The Hazard Mitigation Committee and the National Speleological Society shall meet to determine ways to distribute information to the public about accessing and exploring caves.

Priority/Time: High/Once annually

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Support Agency: National Speleological Society

Utility Failure

The Hazard Mitigation Committee will continue work to establish a program to provide generators to needed facilities. The County shall continue to provide information and recommend upgrading of sewer, water and communications infrastructure in the County. Grant funds should be applied for whenever possible.

Priority/Time: High/Once annually

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County Planning Agency, Utility Service Providers

Support Agency: School Districts, Schoharie County Planning Commission

**MEASURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY EACH MUNICIPALITY
WITH COUNTY ASSISTANCE**

Multi-Hazard Mitigation

Periodically review and revise comprehensive plans and land use regulations: Municipal development and regular review and updating of local comprehensive plans and land use regulations is essential for effective flood prevention and the mitigation of other hazards. Local review and updates should include the following priorities and considerations.

- Is the town/village effectively promoting development patterns that locate major transportation routes and industrial facilities away from population centers schools, gathering places, groundwater recharge areas, etc.? Are major transportation routes and industrial facilities planned to be located away from schools, day cares, churches, waterways, and municipal water sources? If not, have mitigation measures been considered?
- Does the town/village encourage interconnection of subdivision roads and commercial properties in order to diffuse traffic patterns and minimize single access roads?
- Do local regulations include adequate stream setbacks and standards to protect buildings and private bridges from damage due to stream bank erosion?
- Do the Town/Village floodplain development regulations (all municipalities adopted new flood damage prevention laws in April 2004) provide adequate flood protection for new development in areas with known flood risks? With the new updated digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps, each municipality should consider additional construction standards or the regulation of additional areas not identified on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps.
- Do the storm water management and erosion control standards provide adequate protection against increased flood damages?
- Are there areas where underground utilities should be required if feasible?
- Are municipal water supply watersheds adequately protected by land use regulations?

New York Law requires any adopted plans of the County to be considered and incorporated into local plans as appropriate. The County Planning Commission can help keep local municipalities aware of this provision.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Municipalities, Schoharie County Planning Agency

Support Agency: Schoharie County Planning Commission

Hazard mitigation training for municipal officials: When offered, municipal officials (planning board members, code enforcement officer) should attend training/meetings to learn/discuss hazards that relate to site planning, transportation patterns, and development standards. Knowledge of the New York State Building Code needs to be a priority. County sponsored training/meeting may be held at or soon after annual hazard mitigation meeting. Training may include: NYDEC National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) training, NYDEC storm water training, USACOE wetlands training. Building Code training should be pursued annually.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Municipalities

Support Agency: County Agencies

Address municipal staffing needs: Hazard mitigation, emergency preparedness, storm water management, public outreach, and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), will continue to require more and more time of municipal staff. Municipalities would benefit from additional staff resources to enable effective implementation of their hazard mitigation, flood mitigation, drainage system maintenance, and storm water management programs. Cooperative ventures could be sought. Municipal budgets are always tight and additional funding is needed to fully implement and expand these programs.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State

Lead: Municipalities, Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Flood

Assist property owners with flood proofing measures: The Planning and Development Agency will continue to provide technical assistance for elevation of utilities and other measures for flood proofing existing structures. If property owners are interested in implementing flood protection measures that are beyond their financial means, the County and the municipality will evaluate the desirability of applying for financial assistance for flood proofing, elevation or property acquisition. Several municipalities have already identified possible projects that are listed under the project list for the specific community.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State/Federal

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Support Agency: NYSOEM, NYDEC

Upgrade existing drainage structures: When roads, ditches, and culverts are damaged due to drainage and flooding problems, the County make every effort to mitigate the problem when repairs are made. The municipalities will continue the ongoing efforts to upgrade existing drainage structures as the need and funding permit. Highway departments shall participate when requested with the countywide storm water infrastructure inventory. Several municipalities have already identified possible projects that are listed under the project list for the specific community.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State

Lead: Highway Superintendents

Support Agency: NYDOT, County Department of Public Works

Encourage Community Rating System (CRS) application: With the mitigation measures already initiated at the County and municipal levels, each town and village should pursue participation in the CRS program. The Planning and Development Agency can provide assistance to municipalities in meeting the standards and requirements for CRS certification, which can benefit property owners by reducing flood insurance rates. Each municipality will be educated on the process and status of the CRS at the annual hazard information meeting.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Severe Weather

Improve monitoring of weather conditions: Greater coordination and communication between Highway Departments and the National Weather Service (NWS) should be developed. Highway departments should consider technology that can deliver weather forecasting and conditions directly to their town and village offices, and even their vehicles. Highway departments should also contact NWS with snowfall data and advise NWS when actual conditions do not match forecasts. Efforts should be made to provide Highway Departments with access to the NWS – Albany forecast page on the Internet, which provides the most up to date forecast available. Funding for Internet access may be necessary.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Highway Superintendents, Schoharie County (Planning Agency and Emergency Management Office)

Support Agency: NWS, Schoharie County Information Technology Services

Improve highway safety and the sharing of information about road conditions during extreme weather events: At the annual hazard information meeting, there should be discussions about improved communication between highway departments and emergency service providers to insure routes and access for emergency vehicles can be planned and maintained when hazards exist. Planning should further include development of an integrated system for coordinating and sharing information about road conditions and closings among local, county and regional agencies – including coordination among law enforcement, highway and transportation agencies. In addition, superintendents should periodically review and revise plowing schedules to achieve optimal safe roadway conditions.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Highway Superintendents

Support Agency: County Department of Public Works, NYSDOT, Law Enforcement Agencies

Terrorism

Assess the vulnerability of County water systems to a terrorist attack: Each municipality with a public water system (Sharon Springs, Richmondville, Cobleskill, Schoharie, Esperance, Jefferson, and Conesville) needs to prepare a vulnerability assessment, including an evaluation of terrorist threats. The assistance of the Hazard Mitigation Committee can be requested for such assessment.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State

Lead: Municipalities

Support Agency: County Health Department

Assess the vulnerability of municipal facilities to a terrorist attack: Each municipal facility needs to be investigated for potential vulnerabilities to terrorist attack. A representative from each municipality should work with the Hazard Mitigation Committee to assess municipal property and to find ways to improve security. The review should include vulnerability to domestic terrorism, which is a more likely scenario in Schoharie County.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Municipalities

Support Agency: NYS Police, County Sheriff

Transportation Accident

Maintain communication with the NYS Department of Transportation/DPW: The municipalities will continue to communicate with these agencies to ensure that new projects are designed to mitigate hazards. Municipalities will consider access management plans if deemed necessary. Municipal representatives and emergency response personnel will review draft plans to evaluate drainage, site access, and other conditions that might impact the dissemination of hazardous materials and the ability of emergency personnel to respond.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Highway Superintendents

Support Agency: NYDOT, County Department of Public Works

Provide municipal personnel with defensive driving training: Municipal staff that drives private or municipally owned vehicles as part of their jobs will be provided the opportunity to attend defensive driving classes through the County. The cost to the municipality is reduced by participation in the training. The municipalities should offer staff the opportunity to participate periodically.

Priority/Time: High/at least once annually

Funding: Local

Lead: Municipalities

Traffic Control Devices: Traffic control devices should continue to be checked and replaced when necessary. Lighted intersections should be equipped with alternate power sources in case of power failure. Such devices would limit constraints on emergency responders and improve traffic safety during power outages. This can be especially helpful because power outages tend to be the result of other events where emergency personnel are needed. A grant application may be pursued on the County level for such equipment and municipalities shall provide assistance to the County for such application.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State

Lead: Highway Superintendents

Support Agency: NYDOT, County Department of Public Works

Hazardous Materials/Fire

Local fire departments shall continue to work with the County to achieve the objectives in this plan. Training and equipment acquisition/upgrades will continue to be offered by the County.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local/State

Lead: Municipalities

Support Agency: County Fire Coordinator

Caving Accident

Local fire departments shall encourage participation of personnel in cave rescue training when offered, even if no caves are located in the normal response area.

Priority/Time: High

Funding: Local

Lead: Municipal Fire Departments, National Speleological Society, Fire Coordinator